

Application No. 10/743,920
Amendment Dated March 1, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 3, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 (currently amended). A protective body garment comprising:
- (a) a vest having a body with arm holes, the vest having an internal surface and an external surface, the vest having a front that, when worn, is adjacent to a wearer's chest and stomach, sides that, when worn, are adjacent to the wearer's sides, a back that, when worn, is adjacent to the wearer's back, and a pair of shoulders that, when worn, are above the wearer's shoulders;
 - (e) ~~(b)~~ an inflatable flotation bladder in the form of a bag between the inner surface of the vest and the penetration resistant armour; and
 - ~~(d)~~ (c) penetration resistant armour located under the external surface of the vest and over the inflatable flotation bladder;
- wherein the inflatable flotation bladder is between the internal surface of the vest and the penetration resistant armour and the penetration resistant armour is between the external surface of the vest and the inflatable flotation bladder..
- 2 (original). The garment according to claim 1, wherein the armour comprises a plurality of components which are either flexible or flexibly connected together, whereby the armour expands on inflation of the bag with gas.

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- 3 (original). The garment according to claim 1, including portions of the inner and outer surfaces of the vest interconnected by expansion joints that permit said portions to move for providing room for the bag to expand away from the wearer's body when the bag inflates.
- 4 (original). The garment according to claim 3, wherein the expansion joints comprise folded strips of material connected between said portions.
- 5 (original). The garment according to claim 1, wherein there further comprises a pressure regulating device to limit the pressure of the gas in the bag, when the bag is inflated to minimise harm to the wearer by pressure on the wearer's body.
- 6 (original). The garment according to claim 5, wherein the pressure-regulating device includes a valve member connected to the bag for limiting pressure in the bag when said bag is inflated.
- 7 (original). The garment according to claim 2, wherein there further comprises a pressure regulating device to limit the pressure of the gas in the bag, when the bag is inflated to minimise harm to the wearer by pressure on the wearer's body.

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- 8 (original). The garment according to claim 7, wherein the pressure-regulating device includes a valve member connected to the bag for limiting pressure in the bag when said bag is inflated.
- 9 (original). The garment according to claim 3, wherein there further comprises a pressure regulating device to limit the pressure of the gas in the bag, when the bag is inflated to minimise harm to the wearer by pressure on the wearer's body.
- 10 (original). The garment according to claim 9, wherein the pressure-regulating device includes a valve member connected to the bag for limiting pressure in the bag when said bag is inflated.
- 11 (original). The garment according to claim 1, wherein the armour includes a metal mesh.
- 12 (original). The garment according to claim 2, wherein the armour includes a metal mesh.
- 13 (original). The garment according to claim 3, wherein the armour includes a metal mesh.
- 14 (original). The garment according to claim 5, wherein the armour includes a metal mesh.

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15 (original). The garment according to claim 1, wherein the armour includes padding to reduce trauma.

16 (original). The garment according to claim 2, wherein the armour includes padding to reduce trauma.

17 (original). The garment according to claim 3, wherein the armour includes padding to reduce trauma.

18 (original). The garment according to claim 5, wherein the armour includes padding to reduce trauma.

19 (original). The garment according to claim 1, wherein the inflation means includes automatic water immersion sensitive inflation means for the bag.

20 (original). The garment according to claim 2, wherein the inflation means includes automatic water immersion sensitive inflation means for the bag.

21 (original). The garment according to claim 3, wherein the inflation means includes automatic immersion sensitive inflation means for the bag.

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22 (original). The garment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bag extending from the front of the vest at one side of the vest, over one of the pair of vest shoulders, across the vest back, then back over the other one of the pair of vest shoulders and down the front of the vest at the other side of the vest.

23 (original). The garment according to claim 5, comprising an inner vest connectable to an outer jacket.

24 (previously presented). The garment according to claim 23, said vest and jacket each comprising a gas inflatable bag and a pressure regulating device for regulating the pressure within each bag.